

% 2338 Bonny Road, Bouchie Lake, BC, V2J 7G6 E: BMCommunityPlan@gmail.com

Safety Committee Meeting July 7, 2020, 7 pm - 8:30 pm

Chaired By : n/a

Submitted by: Heloise Dixon-Warren, Tier 1, BMCPT Member

Meeting opened at 7 pm

Venue: Bouchie Lake Country Store

Committee Members: Heloise Dixon-Warren, Leslie Holland, Ted Traer, Bob Ross, Ryan Keis, Dan Aussant

Guests: Brian Chen, Fisheries Biologist (Kamloops) - on the phone

Actions: Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation: Dan to contact Types of projects they fund? Triggers to access funding? Mechanism to get things on the list? Russ Bobrowski - Heloise to contact; invite him to a meeting Cost Benefit Analysis - Russ Bobrowski (WL lakes, Bouchie??) Infrastructure Grants - ????; septics Health concerns - contact Northern Health; Bob and Elaine to ask about health issues pertaining to BG algae (Lynnette Winsor, Environmental Health Officer) Establishing a Tax Function for Aeration system mgmt. and operation

Mission Statement

% 2338 Bonny Road, Bouchie Lake, BC, V2J 7G6 E: BMCommunityPlan@gmail.com

General Notes from Discussion with Brian:

Permits and \$\$ to do Aeration Brian would like some background info. On Bouchie Lake Inlet Streams / Outlet Streams - seasonally flowing or flowing year round?? When did Algal (blue-green) Blooms start on the lake? Turn the clock on 1980 - was BL crystal 63 residences on the lake 1970 - there was 10 Everyone on septic systems? Yes Cattle up stream? - not an extensive amount Where do residents get their drinking water - dug wells, drilled wells, some people take water from the lake for domestic purposes Big piece of water; Brian has never been to BL; 128 ha.; (over 300 surface acres); big piece of water; maximum depth of 24'; it is quite shallow; nutrient coming in from the lake through

seepage from septic field and agricultural uses upstream; watershed has quite abit of timber harvesting over the years - don't have a mature forest to absorb nutrients; high rainfall / snowmelt - all nutrients flushing into the lake; no vegetation to absorb nutrients Ecology of the lake has changed over the last 40-50 years.

Fish kills - ??; summer fish kill

Not a significant winter kill (ice comes off and there are fish carcases on the lake)

BL is a eutrophic lake; like many other natural BC lakes

Macro-phytic plant growth; increase in amt. of aquatic vegetation; Flowering rush - invasive aquatic plant (3 different summers when MoE has done a removal of Flowering Rush); Lily pads in the lake - yes

Why do you want to consider aeration for the lake?

Bob - Aeration and Microbes; reduce the sludge in the lake; control growth of blue green algae Article - BC Outdoors about lake Aeration: Hypolimnetic Aeration (it must be a deeper water body than Bouchie); Destratification Type System; diffuser that bubbles up through the water; air- water interchange; increase amount of O2 in the water; used late fall and into the winter

Mission Statement

% 2338 Bonny Road, Bouchie Lake, BC, V2J 7G6

E: BMCommunityPlan@gmail.com

months; Anaerobic decomposition happening in the water (plants die off over the winter; attributing to the removal of O2 through the decomposition process); summer - Blue algal blooms; during the day time the blue algal cells take in CO2 and add O2 to the water; at night, they respire O2 and give off CO2; partial summer kill - shallower areas of the lake, at night, fish suffocate due to lack of O2 (summer kill); O2 is taken from the water due to Blue Green Algae

Lake Aeration in BC: all initiated by provincial fisheries programme (FLNRORD); developed a plan and proposal to aerate these lakes; stratification aeration (diffuser on the shore); FLNRORD applies for funding through the Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation (\$\$\$ raised through Fishing Fees / Hunting Licenses); Capital and operational costs; HCTF is the avenue to fund aeration on public waters in BC; need to work with fisheries programme in WL; Small Lakes biologist - Russ Bobrowski

Bouchie Lake - living ecosystem; would need routine treatments on regular basis to reduce the BG algal blooms; fighting with Mother Nature

Bouchie lake is classified as "Eutrophic lake"; best fishing lakes are eutrophic; so much dissolved solids and key nutrients (calcium and phosphorus); each year, Bouchie lake is getting shallower and shallower; over a course of several 100 years, Bouchie Lake will become a wet meadow, meadow and then it will disappear; each year, it is getting shallower; natural ecological process; accelerated by homes being on the lake, septic tanks, agricultural production, timber production, etc.

\$25,000 - \$40,000 - range for a destratification system; fall and winter time; running such a system during the summer could cause nutrients to be brought up from the depths of hte group 6 lakes in the Kamloops Area -

Most lakes that are aerated are not populated with residential houses

All of the aeration systems in the province are an attempt to sustain the lakes for trout; aeration system is improving the water quality of the lake; aeration slows donw the natural processes of eutrophication; slowly improves the water quality of the

Trigger that determines a lake is aerated or not? Partial summer / winter kills; full kills; kills that are more significant; water chemistry done - temperature and O2 profiles; data collected to determine the biology of the lake

Recommendation:

Mission Statement

% 2338 Bonny Road, Bouchie Lake, BC, V2J 7G6 E: BMCommunityPlan@gmail.com

Limnology done on the lake - regular water sampling

Provincial Lake Stewardship Group Invite Small Lakes Biologist and have the discussion Cost Benefit Analysis - # of Anglers on the Lake Angler Days??? On Bouchie Lake???

Northern Health - interest in BG algae?; cardio-arrest (heart attack) induced through ingesting decomposing BG algae; BG algal blooms common in the interior; human health concern; muddy trout taste - BG algal blooms

Infrastructure Grant - cost share; incentive; (Federal / Provincial) North Cariboo JPC / Sub-Regional Recreation \$\$? Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation

Meeting adjourned: 8:30 pm

Mission Statement